

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS**REGULAR MEETING****Monday, May 13, 2002**

Present: June Bailey, Colleen Craig, Glen Dey, Janet Miller, M.S. Mitchell, Trix Niernberger

Absent: Joe Todd

Also Present: Kathy Dittmer – Riverside Citizens Association (RCA); Dave Longnecker – Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department; and Doug Kupper, Walt Bratton, Leah Hoffman, Tim Martz and Maryann Crockett (staff)

President Mitchell called the meeting to order at approximately 3:30 p.m. The minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 8, 2002, were reviewed and approved.

1. **Summer Update.** Director Kupper and other Park and Recreation staff reported on the following items:
 - **Summer of Discovery.** Director Kupper explained that the Summer of Discovery (SOD) was the City's licensed youth summer day care program for children ages 6-12 held at the ten recreation centers. He said eight of the recreation centers had a ten-week program, while two recreation centers closely associated with year-round schools had a five-week program. He said each week of the program featured a different "theme" or topic such as sports, entertainment, fitness, animals, arts, science, etc. He said the program also included field trips and other activities such as swimming and roller-skating, the cost of which was included in the \$75.00 weekly fee.

Bailey asked several questions concerning enrollment, percentage of children on scholarships and the type of scholarship, deposit required, hours of operation and commented about working with other agencies such as Social Rehabilitative Services (SRS) to place underprivileged children in the program. Hoffman reported that current enrollment was 1,333. She also mentioned that the weekly security deposit was \$25.00 per week to reserve a spot.
 - **Pools.** Leah Hoffman, Park Superintendent - South Division, reported that pools would be opening Monday, June 3, 2002. She briefly reviewed the pool schedule (opening and closing hours). Bailey requested that board members be provided a copy of the schedule. Hoffman commented that staff had been hired to cover all twelve pools. She added that there was also a waiting list of applicants, in case openings became available. She reported on the status of sandblasting and other repair activities at Evergreen and Edgemoor pools.
 - **Hiring.** Hoffman reported that the four job fairs held in February, March, April and May had been very successful. Bailey commented on the need to work with other agencies such as Human Services and the YMCA to obtain qualified applicants for park summer jobs.

Hoffman mentioned that she attends Youth Council meetings at least once a month and is active with the group. She stated that 16 of the 31 positions available in the South Division have been filled.

Walt Bratton, Park Superintendent – North Division, reported that they have hired 21 people and have 13 prospects pending completion of school or other requirements, which should fill 34 of the 45 vacancies in the North Division.

2. **Construction Updates**

- **Grove Park.** Walt Bratton reported that the road through the park was almost finished and that the northeast parking lot was complete. He mentioned that there was a nice article concerning the project in the Wichita-Eagle today. He stated that the Kansas National Guard would be clearing debris at the site in the fall. He added that work on the football fields was continuing including lining out the fields and crowning them. Director Kupper mentioned that the Water and Sewer Department moved a water meter on the site at no cost to the Park Department.
- **Riverside Park.** Director Kupper reported that approximately 50% of the construction drawings were complete. He said the contractor was continuing work on various other aspects of the project including the activity center, Wichita Wild building, planting beds, roundabouts and completing detail work such as picking out tiles and fixtures. He mentioned that the pond had to be redesigned due to a water line that runs underneath Murdock. He said the Water and Sewer Department was concerned about reverse osmosis if the pond was constructed on top of the line. He also mentioned that there had been discussion concerning Stackman Drive.

Mitchell asked about the utility and topographic surveys and why utility locations were incorrectly identified. He also briefly mentioned that the Oak Park well was up and running.

- **Playgrounds.** Tim Martz, Superintendent of Forestry and Central Support, provided board members a handout that explained Phase II of the Playground Renovation Plan. He briefly reviewed the plan stating that Phase I, which included Aley, Sunset, Brownthrush, Lincoln, Henry, Hope, Prospect, Lynette Woodard and Longview Neighborhood was completed in 2001 at a cost of approximately \$300,000. He said demolition and installation of new equipment at Phase II sites, which consisted of 21 locations, would begin within the next two weeks. He said staff was preparing a “Request for Proposal” for Phase III of the plan, which would complete the remaining playground areas including compliance with the American’s with Disabilities Act and other safety features.

There was brief discussion concerning vandalism and various surface materials used at the playground sites.

Off the Agenda Item

On motion by Miller, second by Dey, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED to take up an item off the agenda, which was discussion of installation of a rock crushing operation at 33rd and Ohio.

1. **Rock Crusher at 33rd and Ohio.** Bill Longnecker, Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department, referred board members to a handout that was the Staff Report on the proposed request for Conditional Use to allow the portable rock crushing operation at 33rd and Ohio. He also referred to minutes of the District VI Advisory Board (DAB) dated May 11, 2002, where the DAB voted 8-1 to recommend approval of the conditional use request with several provisions such as installation of landscaping-berming within 60 days of the approval of the conditional use and that the crusher operate a total of 20 days, as opposed to 4 consecutive weeks.

Longnecker briefly reviewed the request stating that the rock crusher will be needed through early summer of 2003. He said the crusher would be located within K-DOT right-of-way during the first year (spring 2002 – spring 2003) of the highway project. He said during the second year, the rock crusher would be moved to the application area to run for approximately 20 days in late spring through early summer. He said hours of operation would generally be from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Monday through Friday. He commented that the soccer field directly north of the site should be ready for use in the spring of 2003; that the season would run from Easter to Thanksgiving; and that games would be on Sundays with practice sessions Monday and Tuesday evenings.

Longnecker briefly reviewed the staff recommendation, which was to approve the application with the following conditions: submit a revised site plan and landscape plan to be approved by the Planning Director; that all internal circulation and ingress-egress be watered during hours of operation and treated to minimize blowing dust; submit a drainage plan to be approved by the City Engineer; water all aggregate piles (no higher than 20-ft) to minimize blowing dust; Health Department must approve stockpiling any fuels or chemicals on the site; applicant shall meet all permitting, reporting and operating requirements necessary per local, state and federal levels prior to any crushing activities on the site; noise generated by the rock crusher shall not exceed community standards as specified by City Ordinance and determined by the Wichita Environmental Health Department; operation of the crusher is limited to 4 weeks (20 days – not consecutive) beginning in late spring or early summer of 2003 (the crusher will also not be operated on the weekend or State or Federal Holidays); any violation of the conditions of approval will cause the Conditional Use permit to become null and void.

Bailey asked whose responsibility it was to insure the applicant complied with all the use conditions. Longnecker responded that the Office of Central Inspection and the Health Department would perform spot checks. He also explained the procedure where the applicant is given an opportunity to correct any violations that may be found. There was brief discussion concerning the landscaping plans.

On motion by Niernberger, second by Miller, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED recommend approval of the Conditional Use Request for the rock crushing operation at 33rd and Ohio.

3. **Director's Update.** Director Kupper reported briefly on the following items:

- Land Acquisition. Director Kupper mentioned possible land acquisition along the west side of the Big Ditch near Central Avenue. There was brief discussion concerning recreational rights along the Big Ditch.
- Linwood Park. Director Kupper reported that USD #259 had initiated condemnation proceedings for the parcel in South Linwood Park. Mitchell asked about the status of the land that was going to be “exchanged”. There was also discussion regarding Land Water and Conservation Funds (LWCF) used to develop the picnic shelter and ball fields and the Board’s request that the school drive be modified.
- Skate Board Park. Director Kupper commented that staff was reviewing several conceptual drawings.
- Naming Committee. Director Kupper reported that the City Council would be appointing a naming committee for the park area at 3rd and Chautauqua.
- Fairmount Park. Director Kupper reported that there would be an opening ceremony for the new shelter building on Saturday, June 8, 2002.
- Mountain Bike Trail at Pawnee Prairie Park. Director Kupper reported that members of the Prairie Woods subdivision had requested additional discussion of the proposed mountain bike trail at the next DAB V meeting.
- Garvey Park. President Mitchell asked about the activity at Garvey Park. He requested a copy of the contract for use of the park.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:55 p.m.

M.S. Mitchell, President

ATTEST:

Maryann Crockett, Clerk
Recording Secretary